

CLASSIFICATION

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

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TOPIC Military Information from Riess

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 5 February 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Prior to 15 January 1953, the Von der Goltz Kaserne in Riess quartered an estimated 600 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia. At 9 a.m. on 29 December, 25 soldiers engaged in march practice and about 40 other soldiers were observed. About 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen practicing with 8 heavy machine guns. At 12:30 p.m., a captain, a senior lieutenant and 28 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets entered the installation, coming from the direction of the Mudra Kaserne. On 15 January, an officer and 10 soldiers engaged in close-order drill. Fresh tank tracks led from the barracks installation toward the railroad station. Motor vehicles seen in traffic in the billeting area

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2. Prior to 15 January, the Mudra Kaserne was occupied by 800 to 900 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, blue-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered black epaulets. About 70 percent of the windows were lighted at dusk. On 29 December, an officer and 20 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets practiced with 2 x 120-mm mortars. Eight trucks towing 120-mm mortars were in the garages. Eighty soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets fell in nearby. At 11 a.m. on 9 January, 4 trucks towing 120-mm mortars and 30 soldiers each wearing red-bordered black epaulets and 1 truck with 14 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and with 2 heavy machine guns moved out of the installation. Twenty soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were maintaining four trucks while about 30 other soldiers engaged in close-order drill. At 9:30 a.m. on 15 January, an officer and about 40 soldiers marched to the garages where 40 other soldiers had already assembled. Two trucks, each towing a 120-mm mortar, were in front of the garages. From 60 to 70 soldiers received basic infantry training, organized into groups.

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3. On 17 January, the Von der Goltz Kaserne quartered an estimated 400 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. About 100 soldiers engaged in close-order drill in the barracks yard. March music was heard from the installation.

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4. On 17 January, the Mudra Kaserne was occupied by about 200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. A local resident stated that the barracks installation was only lightly occupied. About 100 soldiers fell in in front of one of the barracks buildings for reveille. At about 9 a.m., 2 sergeants and 10 EM equipped with 2 x 120-mm mortars moved to the training area south of the tank garages. A battery commander's telescope was set up near the mortars. About 20 officers came from a garage.²

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1. Comment. The 70th Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 9th Tank Div, which is carried in the Von der Goltz Kaserne cannot be confirmed by the present report. However, the observations made in paragraphs 1 and 3 and the tank tracks noticed on 15 January 1953 are indicative of a tank unit in this installation.

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2. Comment. After its departure from the Mudra Kaserne at the end of April 1952, the 108th Tank Regt has no longer been confirmed. The information now indicates that the 218th Mort Regt of the 9th Tank Div, which had been stationed in Meissen-Zaschendorf in the spring of 1952, had moved into the Mudra Kaserne in the fall of 1952. This would explain the existence of the 8 x 120-mm mortars. There is the possibility that quarters for the 45th Gds Tank Regt of the 11th Gds Tank Div, which had not returned to Kamenz and whose new quarters are still undetermined, had to be made available in Meissen in the fall of 1952. It is further conceivable that the 108th Tank Regt remained in Zeithain, all the more so as no information has been available indicating that the regiment is quartered in the division area. It is possible that the unidentified engineer battalion of the 9th Tank Div is also quartered in the Mudra Kaserne in addition to the 218th Mort Regt.

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their appearance in Riesa cannot be accounted for. All other motor vehicles belong to the area of the First Gdr Mecz Army and have previously been observed in Riesa.

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